

In the instance of a major disaster, Amateur Radio may provide the only reliable communications from the disaster area. In such a scenario, only a very simple station may be available for emergency communications. A low-powered, battery operated transceiver, a simple wire for an antenna, and a pair of wires to act as a morse code key.

Why use morse code? Using a low-powered station and a small, inefficient antenna, CW may be the only means to establish communications from the disaster area. It has been proven many times over that CW is far easier to copy than most other modes, especially when very weak signals are involved.

For the sake of maintaining a disaster ready supply of radio Amateurs, I ask the FCC to maintain at least the 5 WPM code requirement for licensing on the Amateur HF allocations.

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